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**SENATE MEMORIAL 18**

**46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003**

**INTRODUCED BY**

Richard M. Romero

**A MEMORIAL**

**HONORING THE NATIONS, TRIBES AND PUEBLOS OF NEW MEXICO BY  
RECOGNIZING THE RIGHT OF TRIBES TO BE SELF-GOVERNING AND URGING  
CONTINUED GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT COOPERATION FOR THE HEALTH,  
SAFETY AND WELFARE OF THE TRIBAL AND NONTRIBAL CITIZENS OF NEW  
MEXICO.**

**WHEREAS, New Mexico's nations, tribes and pueblos are  
centuries-old communities that established and continue to  
employ well-organized tribal self-governing systems; and**

**WHEREAS, the existence and significance of Indian self-  
government and tribal sovereignty over tribal homelands was  
acknowledged in New Mexico from the outset of European contact  
as evidenced by the early Spanish land grants, the recognition  
of civil and political rights by the independent government of  
Mexico, the United States in the 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe**

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1 Hidalgo and by the state in its Enabling Act of 1910; and

2 WHEREAS, the state has continued to recognize and respect  
3 the sovereign tribal governments of New Mexico through many  
4 state laws that encourage the use of cooperative agreements  
5 that authorize and encourage the legislative, executive and  
6 judicial branches of the New Mexico government to coordinate  
7 and work cooperatively with the nations, tribes and pueblos of  
8 New Mexico; and

9 WHEREAS, the senate celebrates and honors the governments,  
10 leadership and contributions of the nations, tribes and pueblos  
11 of New Mexico through an annual recognition day known as  
12 "American Indian Day", occurring this year on February 4, 2003;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, the governor is in the process of executing  
15 agreements reaffirming government-to-government relationships  
16 between the state and the nations, tribes and pueblos of New  
17 Mexico;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
19 OF NEW MEXICO that it salute and honor the nations, tribes and  
20 pueblos of New Mexico by reaffirming its recognition of their  
21 status as sovereign governments and the legislature's  
22 commitment to interact with the nations, tribes and pueblos on  
23 a government-to-government basis so as to promote  
24 intergovernmental cooperation, coordination and communication  
25 on all matters; and

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